



THE CHALLENGE SERIES

Millennium Water:

The Southeast False Creek Olympic Village – Vancouver, Canada

PRESS RELEASE- February 3, 2010

On-line book proves “explosion of interest” in Vancouver’s sustainable Olympic Village

February 3rd 2010 -Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada: A new publication about Millennium Water - Vancouver’s Olympic Village has now reached readers in 106 countries around the world, with 49,500 web page hits to date.

“The attention we’ve received demonstrates that there’s an explosion of interest in sustainable building world-wide – and that Vancouver, with its Olympic Village, is situated at the heart of it,” says Roger Bayley, Design Manager for the Millennium Water Olympic Village development, and the publisher of the book, *The Challenge Series*.

Vancouver’s Millennium Water Olympic Village development is the largest sustainable community in North America. It incorporates a district energy system that extracts 65% of its heat from sewage, uses rainwater for toilet flushing and gardening, has in-suite energy monitoring systems, and has been designed to maximize social involvement, community safety and health.

“We had an incredible experience here, pushing the edge of what can be done in sustainable community design,” says Bayley. “I think we all could see that it was worth documenting the decisions and innovations that occurred along the way. From the attention we’ve been getting from around the world, it was a good call.”

Companies large and small involved in building the Village helped sponsor *The Challenge Series*, along with the City of Vancouver. The series is available in seven installments covering topics such as energy, water, architecture, building landscape, policy, history, visioning, social sustainability and livability. Readers can subscribe for free at www.thechallengeseries.ca, or inquire about purchasing printed copies at print@thechallengeseries.ca.

“*The Challenge Series* is a resource to educate and inspire communities, professionals, residents, builders and community leaders,” says Bayley. “We wanted to share what was learned and offer a challenge to others to hasten the learning curve. We need everyone to start thinking about building this way, to seek meaningful opportunities out of our shared challenges of climate change and resource depletion.”

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Quotes drawn from The Challenge Series

Margot Long of PWL Landscape Architects: “We all inspired each other. There was no one champion. Everyone fed off each other. The workmanship on the project is phenomenal; people took so much pride in absolutely everything.” *Chapter 3, Public Space +Infrastructure*

Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson: “Southeast False Creek is an outstanding example of the sustainability shift our cities need to make. It is living proof that a modern neighborhood that uses less energy, conserves water, reduces waste and is designed around people, not cars, is not decades away – it’s available right now. Cities around the world can build their own examples if they’re willing to challenge themselves, to go beyond what is easy and instead pursue a higher goal.” *Chapter 7, Living Today + Tomorrow*

Gordon Campbell, Premier of British Columbia: “Millennium Water provides an example to all of us. Whether it’s the non-market housing, the waterfront walkway or the way water is treated, it helps us recognize that we can create incredibly beautiful communities that are healthy and environmentally responsible. If we each in our own way do something to improve the quality of our own life as well as the quality of the future life of the people we’ll never know – the children of our children of our children – I think we will not only have a more purposeful life ourselves, but we’ll create even better and more healthy communities for people to live in.” *Chapter 7, Living Today + Tomorrow*